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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231


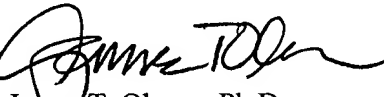
Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/220,398
Entitled: *Methods and Kits for Preparing Multicomponent Nucleic Acid Constructs*
By: Peter Harney; Filed: December 24, 1998
Examiner: Riley, J.; Group Art Unit: 1656
Attorney Docket No.: VOV-003.02

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent application please find the following:

1. Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181;
2. Copy of Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) Request and related documents filed on January 2, 2001 (including Express Mail Receipt and Return Receipt Postcard stamped as received by the USPTO on January 2, 2001); and
3. Return receipt postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any under-payments or credit any over-payments to our Deposit Account No. 06-1448.

<p align="center">Certificate of First Class Mailing</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on the date set forth below:</p> <p>March 8, 2001 Date</p> <p align="center"> Robert King</p>	<p>Respectfully submitted, FOLEY, HOAG & ELIOT LLP</p> <p align="center"></p> <p>James T. Olesen, Ph.D. Reg. No. 46,967 Agent for Applicants Customer ID No. 25181</p>
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